

Hate crime continues
to harm communities

In 2019 race-motivated
hate crime went up by
11% compared to the
previous year
(Home Office Data)

The Latin American
community in London
is not immune to it

It's time
to rise against it

BE ANTI-HATE

Learn what hate crime is
and how to report it

As part of the Together Against Hate 2020 campaign,
IRMO is committed to raising awareness on hate crime within the
Latin American community in London and remove the barriers that
victims face to get justice

[#TogetherAgainstHate2020](#)

To find out more,
click on the icons:



Together
Against Hate 2020

Be Anti-Hate

The Latinamerican community rises against hate crime

Información en español. Informação em portugues.

Together
Against Hate 2020



Indoamerican Refugee and Migrant Organisation



The Indoamerican Refugee and Migrant Organisation (IRMO) **has been supporting the Latin American community in London for the past 35 years** across 3 main areas: Adult Education & Employment, Information and Advice on Immigration & Welfare, Children, Young People and Community support.

Alongside service provision, **IRMO works to increase the visibility of the Latin American community** by working together with local organisations, networks and partnerships and by campaigning to get the recognition it deserves.

Be Anti-Hate

IRMO is committed to raise awareness on hate crime within the Latin American community and facilitate information to report cases and get support.

This campaign is funded by The Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC) and it's **part of the Community Alliance to Combat Hate (CATCH)**.

This factsheet provides information about what hate crime is, how to report it and where to find support.

What is hate crime?

Hate incidents imply an act of violence or hostility directed at someone because of who they are or who someone thinks they are

This means that you could be a victim of this hostility if for example someone thinks you are gay, even if you are not.

When hate incidents:

- involve a **criminal offence** (i.e theft, burglary, murder, harassment, assault, etc.)
- and affect a **'protected characteristic'**: race, religion, disability, sexual orientation or transgender identity;

then they are known as hate crime and when prosecuted, they can result in a tougher sentence on the offender under the Criminal Justice Act 2003.

Types of hate crime

- **Racist hate crime**, when you are targeted because of your race or nationality – for example because you are black or because you are not British or they think you are not British.
- **Homophobic Hate Crime**, when you are targeted because of your sexual orientation.
- **Transphobic Hate Crime**, when you are targeted because of your gender identity.
- **Disability Hate Crime**, when you are targeted because of having a disability or for example, if your child has a disability.
- **Faith Hate Crime**, when you are targeted because of your faith or religion.

How it happens?

***Hate incidents can take many forms.
All of them must be taken into
account***

Examples of hate incidents are:

- Verbal abuse like name-calling and offensive jokes
- Physical attacks such as hitting, punching, pushing, spitting
- Damage to things such as your phone, your pet or your vehicle

Hate speech. The freedom of expression does not cover speech and expression that incites violence, hatred or discrimination. Offensive language or opinions will be unlawful where they cause alarm and distress, such as a threat of violence.

Online abuse. You can also suffer or encounter hatred online on social media or dating sites. As well as to the police, it can be reported directly to some platform providers such Facebook or Twitter.

Who can be a victim?

***Anyone can be a victim of a hate
incident or crime***

Being perceived as different and other vulnerability factors like isolation increase the risk of suffering violence and hostility, both online and offline.

If you believe you are the target of hate crime, you can report it to the police. The victim's perception is as important as the actual event.

You can also report it if you aren't the target of that violence or hostility but **you witness a hate incident or crime**, even simply as a passer-by.

Where does it happen?

These acts can be committed by anyone, whether a stranger, a neighbour, a family member, a or friend, a coworker or manager. Therefore, **they can happen everywhere.**



What to do if you are a victim or a witness of hate crime?

We all have a right to be who we are and to live without fear. If you are a victim or witness:

- Stay calm and avoid responding with abuse or insults
- Look for support from your network, the police or other organisations
- Keep a record of the details of the incident

How to report



You can report to the police:

- **in person** to a local police station
- **by phone** on 101 (or 999 if you are unsafe now!)
- **online:**

at: www.report-it.org.uk

by downloading Self Evident (Police reporting app)

- **on Public Transport:** any antisocial behaviour can be reported to a member of the staff or police officer, on 0800 40 50 40 or texting to 61016

You can **also report anonymously** on <https://crimestoppers-uk.org/>

If you don't speak English, **you can ask for an interpreter** when you call 999 and 111. If you are deaf, hard of hearing or speech impaired, you can text emergency services from your phone.

**CALL 999
IN CASE OF
EMERGENCY
AND IF YOU THINK
YOU ARE IN
IMMEDIATE
DANGER**



The perception of the victim is key in the way the police would record the incident. **When reporting, you should say whether you think it is a hate incident** (because of disability, race, religion, transgender identity, sexual orientation or a combination of these things). In those cases, it would be recorded as a hate incident or crime.

If you choose to report it anonymously, the crime will not be prosecuted **but it will still be recorded and you will help to give visibility to this issue.**



Where to find further support

You may feel uncomfortable with reporting hate crime to the police especially **if you're worried about your migration status.**

If you are a victim, **you can suffer from the trauma caused by the event** and you may need further support.

If you are unsure about what to do or what support you need, **IRMO can help you** make an informed decision about your options and refer you to other relevant services.

Third party reporting. If you are unable or unsure about going directly to the police, you can **report** an incident of hate crime **anonymously through a third party organisation.**

Support for victims of a hate crime. In some cases, victims, family members and witnesses can get help from the **Victim and Witness services**, which provides:

- emotional support
- information and advice about the criminal justice system
- peer support
- access to restorative justice

Other options. IRMO offers a range of services in Spanish and Portuguese where you can get support to find the information you need, to access other relevant external services such as legal or emotional support and to **get involved in activities and projects with the Latin American community.**

**If you need help,
get in touch**

